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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/530,596	04/06/2005	Jurgen Fischer	P/63694	6919
156 7590 10/17/2007 KIRSCHSTEIN, OTTINGER, ISRAEL & SCHIFFMILLER, P.C. 489 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10017			EXAMINER SINGH, DALZID E	
			ART UNIT 2613	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 10/17/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/530,596	FISCHER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Dalzid Singh	2613	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 23-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 23-34 and 37-42 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 35 and 36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claim 35 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Heiling et al (US Patent No. 5,136,410).

Regarding claim 35, Heiling et al disclose a transmitter for an optical information transmission system, comprising:

an optical output port, an enable signal input, and a modulated radiation source for providing an optical information signal at the optical output port when an enable signal is present at the enable control input, the radiation source being operative to output a coded optical test signal at the optical output port when the enable signal is not applied (see Fig. 2 and paragraphs 24-46, 53-71 and 73-81).

Regarding claim 36, a receiver for an optical information transmission system, comprising:

an optical input port, an enable signal output, and a decoder for comparing a code contained in a test signal applied to the optical input port with an expected code, and for generating an enable signal upon coincidence of the codes (see paragraphs 53-71 and 73-81).

3. Claim 36 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pederson et al (US Patent No. 6,243,195).

Regarding claim 36, a receiver for an optical information transmission system, comprising:

an optical input port, an enable signal output, and a decoder for comparing a code contained in a test signal applied to the optical input port with an expected code, and for generating an enable signal upon coincidence of the codes (see Fig. 2 and paragraphs 15-20).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 23-34 and 37-42 are allowed.

Claim 23 is allowed because the prior arts of record do not disclose or teach an optical information transmission system, comprising:

a) a plurality of optical transmitters and optical receivers, each transmitter and receiver having ports for interchangeable waveguides, each transmitter having an enable input for receiving an enable signal associated therewith, each transmitter being operative for generating or not generating an optical information signal according to a status of the enable signal;

b) a plurality of signal generators each operative for generating the enable signal associated with a respective receiver, the status of the enable signal indicating whether the respective receiver is or is not connected to a respective transmitter by a

respective waveguide, each signal generator being connected to the enable input by an enable control line wired independently from the waveguides and being operative for generating the enable signal only if a test signal specific for the respective receiver has before been received at its respective waveguide port; and

c) means for transmitting a description of the test signal of the respective receiver to the associated respective transmitter.

Claim 37 is allowed because the prior arts of record do not disclose or teach a method of suppressing unprotected emission of information signals from transmitters of an optical information processing system in which each transmitter is connected to an associated receiver by an enable control line so as to control enablement of the emission, and in which an optical waveguide is adapted to be connected between a respective transmitter and a respective receiver, comprising the steps of:

- a) outputting, by a respective transmitter, an optical test signal specific for an associated respective receiver;
- b) examining the test signal incident at the respective receiver; and
- c) if the test signal has arrived at the respective receiver, enabling transmission of the respective information signal;
- d) the steps a) to c) being performed when a respective waveguide has been detected as being connected to the respective receiver.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Butler et al (US Patent No. 6,870,863) is cited to show methods of controlling laser in a WDM application.

Tsuchiya (US Patent No. 7,076,176) is cited to show optical signal receiver and optical space transmission system.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dalzid Singh whose telephone number is (571) 272-3029. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 9am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Chan can be reached on (571) 272-3022. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

October 10, 2007

DALZID SINGH
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Dalzid Singh